## BEFORE

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2009-496-E - ORDER NO. 2009-908(A)

## **JANUARY 5, 2010**

IN RE: Petition of South Carolina Electric & Gas
Company for an Accounting Order to Adopt
New Depreciation Rates Effective January 1,
2009

AMENDED ORDER
GRANTING UPDATED
DEPRECIATION RATES
AND APPROVING
RELATED ACCOUNTING
TREATMENT AS SET
FORTH BELOW

This Order amends Commission Order No. 2009-908 to correct a technical error in the last sentence of the following paragraph. Accordingly, we are issuing this Amended Order which corrects the error and in all other respects is unchanged from the original.

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on a Petition by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company ("SCE&G" or the "Company") seeking authority to adopt updated depreciation rates effective January 1, 2009, apply the credit resulting from the updated depreciation rates to calendar year 2009 activity, and flow the results of the updated depreciation rates through utility operating income beginning in January 2010. The purpose of applying the credit resulting from the updated depreciation rates to calendar year 2009 is to reduce the cost of fuel incurred by the Company from its electric generation operations. According to SCE&G, these requests stem from the Company's Depreciation Study conducted in April of 2009, which reflects an annual decrease to depreciation expense of approximately

\$11.9 million. Lastly, SCE&G states that the relief requested will not involve a change

to any of its current rates or prices and will not affect the right of any party to address this

issue in a subsequent general rate case proceeding.

The Office of Regulatory Staff has reviewed the proposal and states that it has no

objection.

We find that adopting the updated depreciation rates is appropriate, and SCE&G's

Petition is therefore approved. The updated depreciation rates shall be adopted and

deemed effective as of January 1, 2009. The credit resulting from the updated

depreciation rates shall be applied to reduce the Company's deferred fuel balance of its

electric generation operations. Beginning in January 2010, the results of the lower

depreciation rates shall flow through the Company's utility operating income to the

benefit of its customers.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the

Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Elizabeth B. Fleming, Chairman

ATTEST:

John E. Howard. Vice Chairman

(SEAL)

Based on electric and common plant (applicable to electric service) balances as of December 31, 2008.